

MAMMILLARIA THORNBERI

Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

XVIII, Number 6

June 11, 1983

JUNE MEETING

Saturday June 11, 1983

1:30 PM

Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

PROGRAM

THE CENTRAL DESERT OF BAJA, CALIFORNIA

A slide presentation of various trips to Baja, California, Mexico will take you to the Central Desert of the Great Peninsula. Dorothy Dunn and John Pasek will describe the plants and the area being viewed. Frank Thrombly will put the slide program together without Dorothy or John knowing what will be projected on the screen. It will be interesting and fun.

Dorothy Dunn will be giving the talk of the Cactus of the month Espostoas and Thrixanthocereus.

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RICK LATIMER will be doing the Newsletter for me in July, so please send all contributions to him. I picked June 27 as a deadline, Hope that it is all right with him. I thank you in advance. Mary

NEWS and THANKS

Bragging Table Winners for May were:

- 1st Wilna Johnson for Pterodiscus Aurantiacus
- 2nd Frank Thrombley for his Tephrocactus Subterraneus
- Tied for Third
 - Dorothy Dunn for her Echeveria "Morning Light"
 - Ruby Winters for her Agave Filifera

We do appreciate Phyllis Flechsig for bringing her Rebutias for the VIP Table.

Thank you to Beverly Kirkegaard for donating plants to the sale table.

We thank David Grigsby, of Grigsby Cactus Gardens in Vista, for giving a five dollar Gift Certificate to EACH of the Trophy Winners in the June Show. A thoughtful gift indeed.

Special thanks to all of the members who entered plants and those that helped to make the June Show successful.

Those who have helped in the kitchen these past 3 months are certainly to be thanked. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

So Thanks

Virginia Buckner, San Miller, Yoriko Rillo, Floretta Warner, Perlso Lewis, Brunhilde Grothe, Eileen Smith, Marianne Thrombley, Mary Aubuchon.

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR JUNE, JULY AND PART OF AUGUST

June 12	SoWestern Hemerocallis Show	Sun: 12:00 - 5:00
June 18 & 19	San Diego Fuchsia & Shade Plant Show	Sat: 12pm-5pm Sun: 10am-5pm
June 26	Ohara School-Ikebana Arrangements and Doll Show	Sun: 11:00am-4:30pm
July 17	Convair Garden Club Dahlia Show	Sun: 1:00pm-5:00pm
July 23 & 24	San Diego Gesneriad Show	Sat: 12pm-5:00pm Sun: 10am-5pm
July 30 & 31	San Miguel Br. American Begonia Show	Sat: 1:00-5:00pm Sun: 10am-5pm
Aug. 6 & 7	San Diego Co. Dahlia Show	Sat: 2:00pm-5pm Sun: 10am-5pm

The annual CSSA meeting will be held at the Los Angeles State Arboretum in Arcadia on July 2, 1983 at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Dr. John Donald from Brighton, United Kingdom will discuss Sulcore Butia Weingartia. Try to attend. I'm sure that it will be an interesting and informative meeting.

Those who have volunteered to bring refreshments for the June meeting are:

- Sarah Jerney
- Sand Frost
- Marianne Thrombley
- Marcelle Barfield
- Elizabeth Glover
- Cathy Frost
- Jan Miller
- Susan Clements
- Alberta Widen

Welcome to our New Members:

- Marshall A. Ploof - San Diego
- Paul Staron/Starr Botanicals - Solana Beach
- John P. Williams - San Diego
- John & Joan Zanot - Rancho Santa Fe

SUCCULENT-OF-THE-MONTH

Cissus & Cyphostemma

by Rick Latimer

The Grape Family Vitaceae (or Vitidaceae) belongs to the Rhamnales (one of the 73 Orders of the Subclass Dicotyledon). This order is closely related to Celastrales (which has two genera with succulent trees as members, namely Trematosperma and Pyrenacantha) and Oleales (which of course includes the Olive tree). The Grape Family itself includes about a dozen genera of about 700 species. Most of these plants are native to tropical regions, although some occur in temperate zones. Nearly all are climbing shrubs with tendrils and alternate leaves. The minute flowers are bisexual or unisexual and are borne in dense clusters opposite the leaves. The fruit is a berry containing only a few seeds.

The most important and most famous member of this family is the edible grape. Vitis vinifera, the wine grape, has been in cultivation since ancient times and its origin is obscure, but is possibly native to the Caspian area of the Caucasus or even western India has been suggested. There are probably from 60 to 70 different species of Vitis, many of them native to North America (as the Vikings discovered a thousand years ago), but extensive cultivation and hybridization has made the recognition of distinct species difficult. The grape is of course the basis for an important industry and food crop in this State and elsewhere, but that is another story.

Among the other genera of this family, we find stem succulents in Cissus and Cyphostemma. The first genus has two types of growth. The first kind is the round, woody, vining stemmed type like that found in the species C. tuberosa from Mexico. This plant has a green caudex that may form many different and unusual shapes. Its active period is from May to November when it sends out long stems with palmate leaves. The long stems form thickened portions that root and in turn form new plants. The other type of succulent Cissus has geometrical, jointed climbing stems such as C. hamaderoensis and C. quinquangularis. The commonest of this type in collections is C. quadrangularis from southern and tropical Africa and India. Its active period is our summertime when it will put out miniature grape leaves from its joints. An outstanding species of this kind is C. subaphylla from Socotra, with oval, glaucous blue stems.

Formerly belonging to this genus, but separated it in 1931 is the marvelous genus Cyphostemma. The different species are creepers, small shrubs, or even trees. C. currorii and C. juttae are the giants of the genus. The latter many reach 4-7 meters in height and 1 meter wide at the base. Gordon Rowley describes

how he once climbed up among the branches of the former species and found a natural arm chair to sit in. The bark of some of the species peels off in strips and range in color from white (C. juttae) to pale brownish yellow (C. hardyi). The leaves of the species are all spirally arranged and crowded at the ends of the branches and drop off for the winter dormant period. The leaves may be roundish like those of the creeper C. oleraceum or 3 to 5 foliate like those of C. bainesii or C. uter. C. juttae has bluish-green leaves. The fruits vary in color from orange (C. juttae) to red (C. hardyi) and to purple (C. currorii), but are inedible due the high oxalic acid content. C. hardyi is native to the Transvaal, while C. uter, bainesii, juttae, & currorii are from Namibia and Angola. From the island of Madagascar comes the species C. laza with a bottle shaped trunk that produces thin, clambering branches. We have a category for these two species in our show, so bring a big one to both!

REFERENCES:

Charles Glass & Robert Foster, Cacti and Succulents for the Amateur.

D. Hardy & E. Retief, "The Caudiciform Cyphostemma Species from Southern Africa", CSSA Journal (53:4), p. 163-6.

Hermann Jacobsen, A Handbook of Succulent Plants.

F. A. Novak, The Pictorial Encyclopedia of Plants and Flowers.

J. Riha & R. Subik, The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Cacti and other Succulents.

Gordon Rowley, The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Succulents.

* * * * *

From the Sick Bay--

We sincerely hope that Gerald Dice is still recuperating nicely from his operation. We send him all of our best wishes.

Also Bill Nelson Broke his hip and was in Mercy Hospital - I'm sure that he is home by now, but we also hope that he is doing well.

ESPOSTOAS AND THRIXANTHOCEREUS

Espositoas, those elegant columnar cacti wrapped in silky white wool, are native to Ecuador and Peru, and belong to the huge Cereus family. They are named after the Peruvian botanist N.E. Esposto. They sometimes reach a height of twelve feet and are crowned with a grooved pseudocephalium on the top of the flowering stems. The flowers are small, funnel-shaped, and immersed in the wool of the pseudocephalium. The fruit is a juicy edible berry and the seed is small, black, and glossy.

Espositoas are characterized by a heavy coating of cottony or silky hairs which usually hides the body of the plants and which is generally snow-white. However, with age, especially in very arid regions, this covering turns almost black on the lower part of the plant, and this gave rise to the name "melanostele" (black column) for one of the species. On reaching maturity the plants put out a heavy, lateral pseudocephalium. In a few cases a double pseudocephalium is formed, one on each side of the plant. The flowers are all nocturnal, opening at about 6:00 p.m. and closing early in the morning. The fruits develop inside the plant body and are not pushed out until they are ripe. They are acid and theoretically edible, although not very palatable.

E. melanostele is one of the most attractive species. This plant grows in the ravines of the western slopes of the Peruvian Andes, and usually exhibits a ringed appearance which indicates the increase in plant height each growing season. Its pseudocephalium may be as much as three inches wide by three feet long. Because of the round fruit of this species, as well as the fact that the stems branch at the base of the plants (instead of near the top, as does E. lanata) and the matted hair, Backeberg instituted a separate genus, Pseudoespostoa, to include E. melanostele and E. haagei.

E. lanata, probably the most familiar species, is limited in habitat to the warm interior valleys of the eastern slopes of the Andes, where it receives considerable rainfall. It forms a short trunk, then branches in candelabra shape to reach an eventual height of fifteen feet and a breadth of ten feet. Its pseudocephalium is narrow and short, generally about twelve inches in length.

Although most reference works list only a few species of Es-postoa, there are numerous varieties and geographical forms of which many can be considered natural hybrids or local variants.

All Espositoas grow at an elevation of from 3,000 to 10,000 feet in frost-free zones, and are not too tolerant of cold weather. Their natural habitat is rocky hillsides where drainage is good, and they can withstand considerable moisture. Plants growing at the higher elevations are much more showy and attractive than those existing at the dry lower edges of these zones. They are moderately fast-growing and for best growth under cultivation they should be given very strong light, as their dense matted hair tends to screen

out the light. Propagation is best from seed as cuttings are very slow and difficult to root, some taking as long as two years.

Thrixanthocerei are often now included in the genus Espositoa by many authorities. They are native to northern Peru and grow at higher elevations in the Andes. They are also columnar in habit and almost always simple, only rarely branching from the base. Thrixanthocereus means 'columnar cactus bearing hairy flowers'; this refers to the fact that the blossoms are somewhat hairy on the outside. Mature plants develop a dirty white cephalium through which the cream-colored or reddish nocturnal flowers appear. In one species, T. blossfeldiorum, the flowers have a very obnoxious smell. The flowers may remain open for some time during the succeeding day. These plants require a great deal of sun and warmth and cannot tolerate much cold in the winter. Young plants develop a dense ring of long bristly spines around the base of the stems. There are only three species in this genus, T. blossfeldiorum, T. cullmannianus, and the rarest and most beautiful of all, T. senilis.

References:	Backeberg, Curt:	<u>Cactus Lexicon</u>
	Barthlott, Wilhelm:	<u>Cacti</u>
	Borg, J.	<u>Cacti</u>
	Buxbaum, Franz:	<u>Cactus Culture Based on Biology</u>
	Akers, John F.	<u>A Cactus Collector Goes to Peru</u>
		(Cactus and Succulent Journal, March, 1947)

By Dorthy Dunn
January, 1983

* * * * *

Don't forget the picnic in July
It will be held at the Live Oak
Park near Fallbrook. There will
a plant auction and Potluck with
liquid refreshments furnished by
the club. Come and Enjoy!

Put July 9 on your Calendar



Pesticides Decompose in Alkaline Water

Pesticides can be ineffective in controlling pests for several reasons, including incorrect application rate, improper timing, inappropriate chemical used for the insect involved and old chemicals that have outlived their effective shelf life. One seldom-considered factor is water quality. Most pesticides will lose some degree of their effectiveness in alkaline water (a pH value of seven is considered neutral, values above that are alkaline) through a decomposition process called alkaline hydrolysis. This process, which begins as soon as the chemical is mixed with

water, continues after it has been sprayed onto the plants and can greatly reduce the effectiveness of a pesticide. The rate at which this process occurs varies according to the chemical involved and the alkalinity of the water. Malathion, for example, loses its effectiveness very quickly in water that is just above neutral. Other pesticides affected by alkaline water include Parathion, Sevin, Orthene, Di-Syston and Lanate. Some fungicides also are pH sensitive and should not be combined with materials such as hydrated lime or mixed in alkaline water. These include Captan, Botran, Lesan and Carbamate fungicides.

Greenhouse Grower, February, 1983, recommends you take four precautions to reduce the effects of alkaline hydrolysis: 1) frequently check the pH of your water 2) read pesticide labels to see if material is sensitive to alkaline water 3) do not mix pesticides until you are ready to use them, especially if you are combining pesticides 4) if your water is alkaline, and you are using a sensitive pesticide, add a product to neutralize the pH such as Spray-Aide, Buffer-X, Nutrex, Sorba spray or Tri-fol. These should be available from your local garden center or nursery, especially if alkalinity is a problem in your area. Adding commercial vinegar (acetic acid) to the water has been suggested as a home remedy, but, according to Dr. Christine Stephens, a professor of vegetable and ornamental diseases at Michigan State University, it "is not reported to give satisfactory results because of its instability and failure to remain on leaf surfaces."

Sempervivum Newsletter

Sempervivum enthusiasts familiar with the British publication on their favorite plant, called *Houseleeks*, may not know there is an American publication to which they can subscribe. *The Sempervivum Fanciers Association Newsletter* has been published quarterly since 1975, and each six- or eight-page issue contains at least one photograph. The subscription price is \$10 per year, \$12 for foreign members. For more information or a subscription write Dr. C. William Nixon, 37 Ox Bow Lane, Randolph, MA 02368.

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Orientation:

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti, other succulents and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 pm in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held after the general meetings. Annual dues are \$8.00 per single member per year, \$2.00 for each additional member of a household within a family. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are 60 cents.

Editor
Mary Aubuchon
1058 5th Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 92011



FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America is proud to present the following speakers and programs at their 20th Biennial Convention, June 19 thru 24, 1983 at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. For registration and information contact: Miss Lillian Mackle, Registrar, 725 Rolfe Drive, St. Louis, MO 63122.

June 19
Sunday

REGISTRATION - ALL DAY

June 20
Monday

9:00 AM REGISTRATION
12:00 LUNCH
2:00 PM - The Destruction of Tropical Forests
3:00 Dr. Peter Raven
3:00 PM - Historic Cactophiles of St. Louis
4:00 Dr. Larry Mitich
6:00 PM - OPENING SESSION and BANQUET
8:00
8:00 PM - Confessions of a Cactomaniac (My Life with Flora)
9:00 Mr. Gordon Rowley

June 21
Tuesday

8:30 AM - Pests of Cacti and Other Succulent Plants, and Their Control
9:30 Dr. Ronald Monroe
9:30 AM - Cacti and Wildlife of Some Islands of Baja California
10:30 Hernando Sanchez-Mejorada
10:30 AM - REFRESHMENTS
10:45
10:45 AM - CSSA Affiliated Clubs, Their Propagation and Culture
11:45 Dr. Seymour Linden
12:00 LUNCH
1:30 PM - The Hardy Sempervivums and Their Allies
2:30 Dr. C. William Nixon
2:30 PM - The Chilean Cacti
3:30 Fred Kattermann
3:30 PM - RARE PLANT AUCTION
5:30
6:00 PM DINNER
8:00 PM - Lithops, Naturally and Controlled
9:00 Desmond T. Cole

June 22
Wednesday

9:00 AM CSSA BOARD MEETING
(Open to the full Convention)

12:00 LUNCH

1:00 PM MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR

6:00 PM Cash Bar and Dinner at the Garden with Greetings by Dr. Peter Raven

June 23
Thursday

8:30 AM - Growing Cacti From Seed To Maturity
9:30 Anita Holst

9:30 AM - Pollination Syndromes in Succulents
10:30 Mr. Gordon Rowley

10:30 AM - REFRESHMENTS
10:45

10:45 AM - Pollination and Hybridization of Stapeliads
11:45 Dr. Gerald Barad

12:00 LUNCH

1:30 PM - Studies on the Taxonomy of Weincartia and Sulcorebutia
2:30 John D. Donald

2:30 PM - Crassulacean Acid Metabolism
3:30 Dr. Irwin P. Ting

6:00 PM DINNER

7:30 PM- Rhipsalis and Related Epiphytic Cacti
8:30 Professor Dr. Wilhelm Barthlott

8:30 PM - DELEGATES MEETING
????

June 24
Friday

8:30 AM - Pesticides for Cacti and Succulent Plants
9:30 Kenneth Peck

9:30 AM - Electron Microscopy in Succulent Plant Classification
10:30 Professor Dr. Wilhelm Barthlott

10:30 AM -- REFRESHMENTS
10:45

10:45 AM - Succulent Plants of the Namib Diamond Zone
11:45 Dr. Gerald Barad

12:00 LUNCH

1:30 PM - Tricocaulons, Mainly Smooth Stemmed
2:30 Desmond T. Cole

2:30 PM - Cacti of the American Southwest
3:30 Steve Brack

6:00 PM CASH BAR AND FAREWELL BANQUET

JUDGING SCALE

SPECIMENS, COLLECTIONS, and DISPLAYS

Condition	70%
Staging	15%
Size & degree of maturity	10%
Nomenclature	5%

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY

Educational value	80%
Staging & originality	20%

AWARDS POINT SYSTEM

RIBBONS:	1st — 5 pts., 2nd — 3 pts., 3rd — 1 pt.
COLLECTIONS:	1st — 7 pts., 2nd — 5 pts., 3rd — 3 pts.
EXHIBITS:	1st — 10 pts., 2nd — 7 pts., 3rd — 5 pts.
BEST IN SHOW TROPHIES:	10 pts.

Two or more entries are necessary for an award to be given in the EXHIBIT DIVISION.

SHOW COMMITTEE

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PLANT SALES

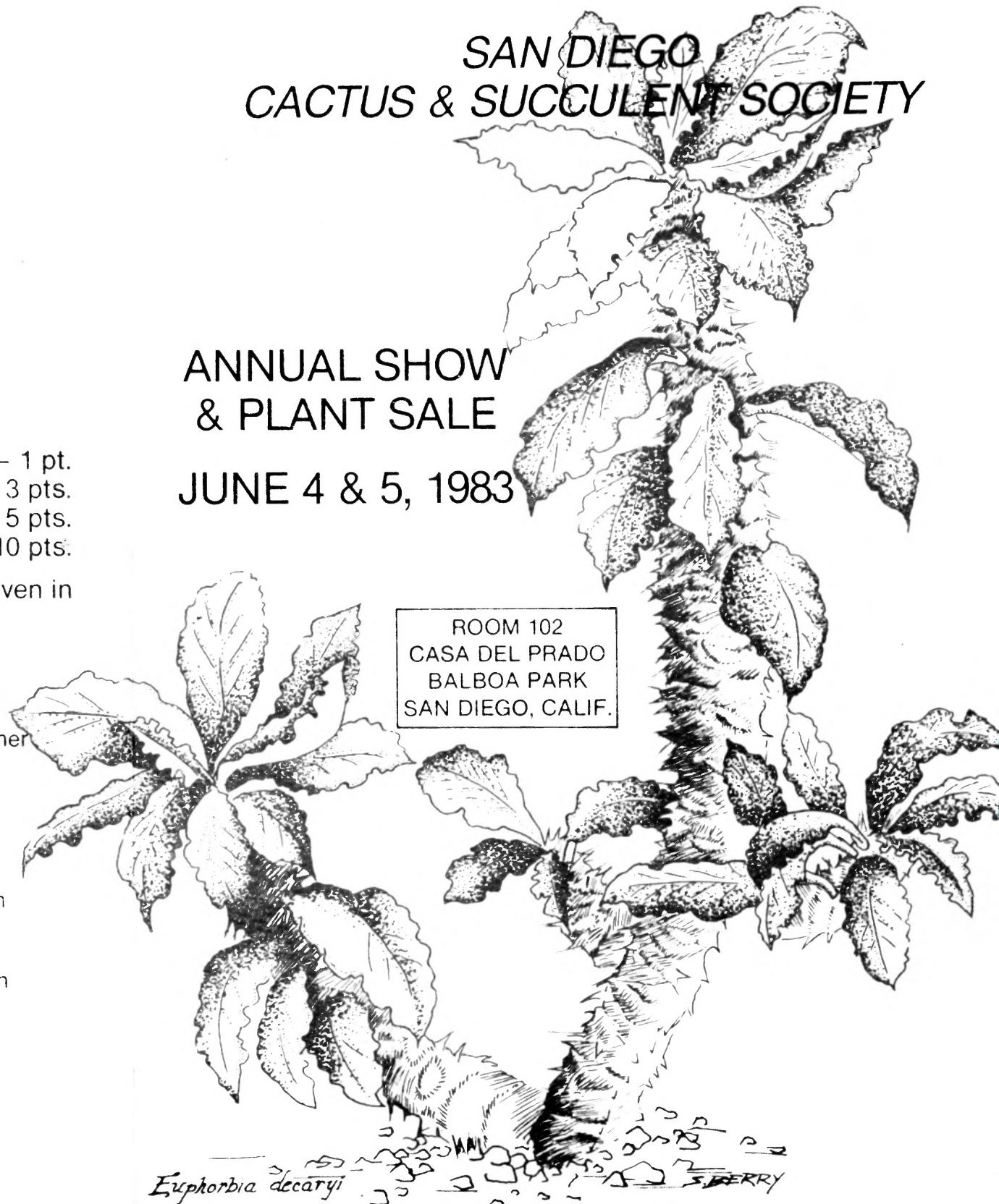
10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Saturday & Sunday
Casa del Prado

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

ANNUAL SHOW & PLANT SALE

JUNE 4 & 5, 1983

ROOM 102
CASA DEL PRADO
BALBOA PARK
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.



CLASSIFICATION

Classes 1 through 59 are "A" and "B" (except collections)

"A" = 5" pot size and under, "B" = over 5" pot size

Class "A" and "B" sizes will be measured at the inside dimensions of the container.

Judging Saturday, June 4, 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

DIVISION I CACTI one plant per pot

CLASS

1. Ariocarpus, Encephalocarpus, Leuchtenbergia, Obregonia, Strombocactus
2. Astrophytum
3. Aztekium, Epithelantha, Pediocactus, Pelecyphora, Turbinicarpus, Ancistrocactus
4. Copiapoa, Islaya
5. Coryphantha, Escobaria, Neolloydia
6. Discocactus, Uebelmannia, Buiningia
7. Echinocactus, Echinofossulocactus, Echinomastus, Ferocactus, Gymnocactus, Hamatocactus, Homacephala, Thelocactus
8. Echinocereus, Wilcoxia
9. Echinopsis, Lobivia, Soehrensia, Sulcorebutia, Acanthocalycium
10. Frailea, Blossfeldia
11. Gymnocalycium, Weingartia
12. Mammillaria
13. Matucana, Submatucana, Borzicactus, Oroya, Denmoza
14. Melocactus
15. North American Cereus
16. South American Cereus
17. Neochilenia
18. Neoporteria, Eriosyce, Horridocactus, Pyrrhocactus, Rodentiophila
19. Notocactus, Malacarpus, Wigginsia
20. Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Consolea, Pereskia, etc.
21. Parodia
22. Rebutia, Aylosteria, Mediolobivia
23. Epiphyllum, Rhipsalis, Hatiora, Selenicereus, etc.
24. Any other genus
25. Crests, Monstrose, Variegated Cactus
26. Collections (6-10 different species of any genus, of any size)

ROOM 101

Casa del Prado

Saturday, June 4, 1-5 P.M.

Sunday, June 5, 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

SET UP TIME

Friday, June 3, 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.

Saturday, June 4, 7:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

TAKE OUT TIME

Sunday, June 5, after 5 P.M.

DIVISION II OTHER SUCCULENTS one plant per pot

CLASS

27. Adenia
28. Aeonium, Aichryson, Greenovia, Jovibarba, Monanthes, Sempervivum, Orostachys
29. Agave
30. Alluaudia, Didierea, Decarya
31. Aloe
32. Anacampteros, Ceraria, Portulacaria, Talinum
33. Beaucarnea, Calibanus, Dasylirion, Nolina, Yucca
34. Bursera, Commiphora, Fouquieria, Idria, Pachycormus, etc.
35. Cissus, Cyphostemma
36. Conophytum
37. Cotyledon, Adromischus, Tylecodon
38. Crassula
39. Dioscorea, Ibervillea, Ipomea, Kedrostis, Testudinaria, etc.
40. Dorstenia, Ficus, Peperomia, Plectranthus
41. Dyckia, Hechtia, Abromeitiella
42. Echeveria, Dudleya, Pachyphytum
43. Euphorbia
44. Other Euphorbias: Jatropha, Monadenium, Pedilanthus, Synadenium, etc.
45. Gasteria, Boweia, Bulbine, etc.
46. Haworthia, Astroloba
47. Kalanchoe
48. Lithops
49. Other Mesembryanthemaceae
50. Pachypodium, Adenium, Plumeria
51. Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon
52. Sansevieria
53. Sedum, Tacitus, Graptopetalum
54. Senecio, Othonna
55. Stapelia, Caralluma, Duvalia, Huernia, Piaranthus, etc.
56. Other Asclepiads: Brachystelma, Ceropegia, Hoya, Fockea, etc.
57. Any other genus
58. Crests, Monstrose, Variegates
59. Collection (6-10 different species of any genus, of any size)

DIVISION III

60. Dish Gardens, Planters (more than one plant)

DIVISION IV

61. Educational Display

DIVISION V

62. Individual Display

SHOW RULES

Open to anyone with an interest in succulent plants. There is no limit to the number of entries per class or the number of classes entered. No entry shall be entered in more than one class. All property shall be marked with the owner's name, not visible to the judges. Plants must be grown by the exhibitor for six months. Grafted plants will be accepted in any class. All entries must have entry cards and exhibitors are responsible for placing entry cards with their entries. Plant name tags in pots must be removed. Awards must remain with exhibits until close of show. The show committee reserves the right to reject plants or exhibits and to readjust entries for the good of the show. Show hours must be followed. The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits, however, it cannot assume responsibility for loss of property. Entries are judged against perfection. The judges' decisions are final. The show Chairman shall make all final decisions, except in matters of judging.

AWARDS

FIRST, SECOND and THIRD place ribbons will be awarded in each class; however, should the judges feel that a FIRST, SECOND, or THIRD place is not merited, it will be withheld.

BEST CACTUS

BEST SUCCULENT

BEST EXHIBIT

BEST EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY

MOST ARTISTIC DISPLAY

BEST MEXICAN PLANT IN SHOW

BEST EUPHORBIA

BEST GRAFT

BEST ALOE

BEST EPIPHYTE

BEST PELARGONIUM or

SARCOCAULON

BEST OPUNTIEAE

SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY

Phillip Corliss Plaque

Ruby Falk Plaque

Reuben Vaughan Plaque

C.S.S.A. Award

Walter & Hazel Scott Plaque

Dudley B. Gold Trophy

Lydia Evans Cup

Bob & Suzanne Taylor Trophy

Barbara Jeppe Trophy

William & Ruth Nelson Trophy